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OCT 29 2004

PATENT CASE: IN01174-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Z. Zhu et al.

Serial No.: 10/013.071

Filed: 12/10/2001

For: "Diaryl Peptides as NS3-Serine Protease Inhibitors of Hepatitis C Virus"

Examiner: R. Mondesi

Group Art Unit: 1653

Atty. Docket No.: IN01174

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION PER 37 C.F.R § 1.116

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action that the Examiner issued on September 22, 2004, in the above-identified patent application.

Claims 1-18 and 21-23 are pending in the case; claims 1-18 and 21-23 stand finally rejected. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following Amendment after Final Rejection. This communication is being faxed to the Examiner's attention at 703-872-9307.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.